



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Food and
Nutrition
Service

Mountain
Plains
Region

1244 Speer Boulevard
Denver, CO 80204-3585

Reply to
Attn. of:

SP 94-77

SEP 14 1994

Subject:

School Programs Policy Guidance - Questions and Answers (Second Series)

To:

STATE AGENCY DIRECTORS
(Child Nutrition Programs)

- Colorado ED, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri ED,
Montana OPI, Nebraska ED, North Dakota,
South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming ED

This memorandum conveys policy guidance on a variety of issues which have arisen in recent months in our Region. The guidance is expressed through the use of a question-and-answer format, and is the second in this series, following SP 94-69 which was issued May 12, 1994.

Please call our office if you have any questions.

Ann C. De Groat

ANN C. DEGROAT
Regional Director
Child Nutrition Programs

Attachment

NATIONAL SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAM, SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM
AND SPECIAL MILK PROGRAM
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS (SECOND SERIES, 9/94)

1. Q. When a school wishes to distribute waiver of confidentiality forms to households which have been certified eligible for free or reduced price benefits, may the school distribute these forms only to the free and reduced-price eligible households?

A. A school may distribute these forms only to eligible households IF it does so without overtly identifying the children who are eligible for free and reduced-price benefits. One means by which the school could accomplish this would be by mailing the waiver forms to the individual households which are eligible.

2. Q. If a school permits reduced-price and full-price paying children to charge meals when they don't have their meal money, may the school limit the number of "charges" to three?

A. Under the law, the regulations, and the guidance, there is no requirement that reduced-price and full-price paying children be given credit which permits them to charge the price of meals when they don't have money with them to pay. State agencies, school food authorities or schools themselves may adopt policies on the charging of the price of meals or milk, as long as the policy contains no provisions which are prohibited under Federal regulatory requirements.

3. Q. Are Nutrigrain Bars credited the same way as Granola Bars?

A. Granola Bars are listed under Group C - Miscellaneous Items on page 119 of the Food Buying Guide in the "Bread and Bread Alternates for the Child Nutrition Programs" chart. In a note under Group C it indicates that Granola Bars cannot be credited for any meal service except snacks. Nutrigrain Bars, which are not listed on this chart, can be credited in the School Breakfast Program, because they fall under Group B, "Crackers and Low-Moisture Bread." The particular Nutrigrain Bars in use must also meet the ingredient and serving size requirements in order to be credited.